

Dear Membership:

It has been an exciting year with the Oregon Glass Guild. I find myself once again in the position of leadership with this fine organization and shake my head at myself. I really do enjoy working with the Board of Directors which we have had this year and look equally forward working with the in-coming crew.

It seems strange to begin a letter near the end of the year but I must let you all know how the Mid-Valley Chapter presented themselves at the Annual Meeting. First, this group is ON FIRE with glass and with each other. It was such a pleasant thing to see so many people from all the four Guild Chapters in attendance. Mid-Valley put on a feed that was superb. This was only a slight detraction from the various stations where they had members and business owners presenting techniques and new ideas. We were treated quite nicely to good weather and happy smiles all around.

One of the things I appreciated so much was the willingness of the attendees to volunteer for positions that needed to be filled. As a volunteer organization, I cannot stress enough that our Guild would not function without small help from many and large volumes of help from some. Every time you volunteer to do ANYTHING for your chapter or the larger state version, you are strengthening the entire group. Thank you so very much.

So, starting at the Southernmost chapter of our state: Eugene had a great year. Noni Lundy the President of that chapter really did a nice synopsis of their events. So, from Noni to the rest of us:

It has been such a rewarding year for me to have been the president of the Eugene Chapter of the Oregon Glass Guild. I have been very honored to be a part of such a hard working and classy group! Thank you all for the opportunity to learn and grow in this position and for being so generous with your time and patience. I look forward to being an active member for years to come and welcome with all my heart this year's Chapter president, Toni Zybell.

This Year the Eugene chapter started off the with the annual Mask Competition. Members from Eugene and the other chapters were shown at The Art of Glass for several weeks and a public vote was taken during the show. On the last night of the show, we held a closing night party and had a great time. The votes were tallied and the first, second and third place winners were announced. In a very close vote the 1st place winner was Kathleen Piper, with Joanne Morrison in second. This event always leaves me with the desire to create, and filled with pride for being a part of such a talented group of artists.

The event that many of the folks in the Eugene Chapter find the most rewarding, including me, is the yearly Food for Lane County "Empty bowls" event. Many groups come together to partner with the Oregon Glass Guild in making this fabulous event take place, including several of our sponsors, but especially Uroboros Glass and the Eugene

Glass School. The event started with a public education and participation night where local members of the community came to the Eugene Glass School to learn about glass fusing and blowing and to make magnets and decorate sushi style plates to be fused, by our dedicated volunteer team lead by Sue Bradley and Debbie McDaniel. The plates were fused at the Glass School over several weeks and were delivered to Clay Space to be sold along with other fantastic art bowls to raise money for Food for Lane County. This year's event was a huge success and people came out in force to support the artists and raise money for a worthy cause in this difficult economic time.

We held meetings at the Eugene Glass school, the Art of Glass, and at the homes and studios of several members who made us feel welcome and generously allowed us to their explore studios and learn from one another. One of the highlights of the year was the membership drive and summer BBQ where Pat Mc Daniel cooked yet again for this hungry crowd and we spent time being social and getting to know one another that much better.

In the fall the much anticipated Diversity in Glass was held once again although on a much smaller scale than the previous year. Timing wasn't ideal for everyone being in the beginning of November and participation was limited but those who did participate did an outstanding job and again I would like to thank the volunteers who helped, especially Kaye Johnston who did the intake for the show and kept things moving along. The opening night show was mellow but fun and featured a great group of jazz musicians, the Now trio, who helped us celebrate art on the Last Friday Art Walk.

This year's holiday event was so much fun. Hosted again, by the fabulous Jo Syron, chapter members came bearing gifts to exchange and food to enjoy. This meeting is always a pleasure with the lighthearted mood and the sometimes funny, changing of the guard to the new chapter leadership. This year, Toni Zybell was jokingly crowned Miss Glass Guild, and with true and heartfelt appreciation was welcomed as the new president of the Eugene Chapter of the Oregon Glass Guild.

It is amazing to me how quickly this last year has come and gone. I know that the new year will go just as quickly and hope that everyone has a good one. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow in my new position as sponsorship chair and I look forward to getting to know you all even better. Thanks so much for all of your hard work, volunteer efforts and good natures. It has been such a pleasure for me and I know that the Oregon Glass Guild will continue to be an effective and encouraging group for glass artists in the years to come. Happy New Year to you all,

Noni Lundy, Eugene Chapter President 2009 Now this sounds like you all had a marvelous time. Way to go!

Moving northward into the **Mid-Valley** Chapter, Alice Geyer reports:

This year we had several guest presenters whose presentations were much appreciated:

Janis Edwards helped every attendee make precious metal clay pendant/earrings.

Cynthia Morgan did a power point presentation of her glass art.

We had a visit from Shape Casters and learned basic casting techniques.

Colour de Verre came to Albany and showed us how to make boxes and shared other techniques in shelf priming, etc.

We hosted the OGG yearly meeting.

Carolyn McBee gave presentations in screen printing and decal making.

3 chapter members attended the Richard Glenn class with 1/2 our tuition paid by the guild.

Our chapter members displayed our art at the 2 public libraries in Feb and in June

hoo rah, Alice For a brand-new chapter, I must give *KUDOS* all around. Fantastic effort!

Bob Heath has the following to say about the *Portland* Chapter:

Jan 09 **Class:** Richard Glenn – One day class on creating imagery on glass through the use of phone resist. Apx. 40 people attended this class. Tuition was \$75 each and OGG subsidized the class with \$750. The class was held at the Montavilla Community Center in Portland.

Jan 09: Movie Night in the large community room at the Beaverton Resource Center – showed Beginning Fritography with Michael Dupille and Corning: Kilnformed Glass with Rudi Gritsch. We had popcorn and soft drinks for refreshments. This was a last minute substitution after our first two speaker plans fell through.

Feb 09: Roger Thomas in the large community room at the Beaverton Resource Center. Roger presented a slide show of his work and described the techniques that he uses. Roger is a well known glass art pioneer in the Portland area, and was a very popular speaker with full house crowd.

Mar 09: Andy Paiko at the Museum of Contemporary Craft. Andy is a Portland glass blower that creates “machines” out of glass. His work is currently on display at the Museum of Contemporary Craft and was recently featured on Oregon Art Beat. We watched the video of Andy from Oregon Art Beat, then Andy showed slides and talked about how his work was created.

- Apr 09: How to Photograph your own glass with Ron Braithwaite. Ron set up an example photo booth and illustrated lighting techniques and the use of a computer to control the camera and help get the perfect image. Ron succeeded in getting a beautiful photo of an example piece provided by a member that had twice stumped other professional artists. This meeting was held at the Beaverton library.
- May 09: Fuse-a-thon for Empty Bowls held at Uroboros. This event served as our meeting for the month of May. It was only very lightly attended however. 22 bowl blanks were made and were later slumped and sold during the Blues Festival to raise funds for the Oregon Food Bank.
- June 09: Marty Kremer at the small community room at the Beaverton Resource Center. Marty is a visiting artist from New York, in town for BECON. Marty showed slides and talked about his work and proved to be a very popular and entertaining speaker.
- June 09 **Class:** Marty Kremer, one day class taught at John Groth's studio in Hillsboro. Primary focus was on creation of strip bowls, including his Ventana series. 16 people attended this class. Tuition was \$75 each and OGG subsidized the class with \$310.
- July 09: Swap meet plus new products from John Groth (glass stands) and Colour de Verre with Larry Jacobsen, casting molds. It was 106 degrees in Beaverton that day and not many people attended. Meeting was held in the small community room at the Beaverton Resource Center.
- Aug 09: Special planning meeting for the future of the Portland chapter. Members were asked to bring ideas for new chapter activities and to volunteer for leadership roles. Only one non-board member attended. Very discouraging.
- Aug 09: Cynthia Morgan – Sculpting with pate de verre. Cynthia gave a slide presentation and showed examples, illustrating mold making and the steps involved in the creation of pate de verre. Very good presentation with lots of audience interest and questions. Meeting was held in Room A at the Beaverton library.
- Sept 09: Robert Oddy – Well known stained glass artist, Robert Oddy presented techniques for creating the illusion of depth and dimensionality in what is essentially a two dimensional art form. Meeting was held at the Beaverton Community Center
- Oct 09: Candace Pratt & Ron Lucas – Portland glass artist Candace Pratt gave a presentation on the creation of kilnformed architectural glass. Ron Lucas illustrated how his custom metalwork serves to complement and support the

glass work of Candace. This meeting was held at Georgie's Ceramics in Portland. Next time, we'll make sure that the kiln in the room is turned off.

Dec 09: Our annual holiday party was held at the home of Becky and Len Magnuson in Portland. The party was a pot-luck dinner and gift exchange. A great time was had by all.

It seems to me that Portland is the place to get some very good information and lots of fun. I can attest to the holiday party as being a riot!

The Gorge Chapter is our last group to report. Serena Smith writes:

We met several times this year but didn't have a lot of big activities.

Several of our members were featured at the Golden Art Gallery in Goldendale.

Our president, Serena, was featured in a show at The Dalles Art Center.

Charlene and Serena have been talking about offering some bead making classes in the region which we hope to arrange for next year.

We're excited to have Alan as president and Linda as vice president next year!

Thank you Serena.!

Now a final word about the Gorge Chapter from me: Living here in this fantastic part of the world, one of the challenges that the Gorge chapter faces is the limited number of people to draw from. As such, our challenges are in keeping the meetings interesting and at a time when we can draw from the strengths of the members who live 40 minutes or more away from the meeting places. The weather is always a large concern in this area as many roads are quite unsafe during the winter. So, we have had to take a breather and re-evaluate what we are capable of doing. This coming year it has been planned to meet quarterly and already our President and Vice-President have arranged some fantastic speakers/demos for our group. We also realized that we need to broadcast (i.e. radio, newspaper, internet etc) our events in the hope of drawing a larger group of people. So, the flame is not out...just banked at the moment!

I have noticed that keeping an organization as large as this Guild healthy requires some real commitment. Seeing a vision and promoting it to keep it healthy is a job that can't be done alone. As such, I'd like to personally thank my "Board or Bored Members" who carried the weight of this Guild through 2009.

Jim Simmons: This man keeps us all informed on a very regular and intermittent basis of events and information which is pertinent to all of us. At a moment's notice, I'll send Jim a request and pronto...it is in an e-mail to all of us. Thank you kindly Jim, for your dedication to the Guild.

Bob Heath: Our guild would not have a web presence like we do if it weren't for this man's dedication to the job. Bob has time and again changed and manipulated information for our web-site. He is the one responsible for keeping current the activities that the chapter presidents report on. He makes available a site for artists to link to, to show their own web-sites, a gallery of their works and much more. The roster of current membership is an ever-evolving part of the web. Thank you so very much Bob for quietly continually working on this. It means a lot to those of us that actually use the site.

Alan Shaw: Our state treasurer. Bills wouldn't get paid, fees wouldn't get paid, vouchers wouldn't get paid, tax reports wouldn't get done and Glass Gallery vendors wouldn't get their money. Got the picture? Alan has done this job for the last two years and may I say THANK-YOU so very much. There is a special category of people who can work with figures and make them all come out correctly.

Alice Geyer: Mid-Valley wonder-woman was our Secretary in 2009. We so appreciate all the wonderful minutes she compiled this year and amazingly she volunteered to remain in this position for 2010. The State of OREGON thanks you (required by law to have minutes) and the State Guild also thanks you.

Chapter Presidents: Noni Lundy, Alice Geyer, Bob Heath and Serena Smith. This is a team of work-horses. They must have a vision or they wouldn't do it. Everyone put their hearts and souls into making Oregon Glass Guild the best guild in the state of Oregon!

There are two very important women who put in MEGA hours of work for the Guild. They are:**Heather Fields and Donna LaPlante.** The Glass Gallery is our premier show that is available to every member of the guild. These two women have had a team of volunteers for the past two years that work so well together. Putting on a show of this magnitude is not done because we "want" it. It is put on because we have people like Heather, Donna, Sharon Dunham and their crews. Thank you so very much.

I've really tried to keep this short. Har! Anyway, look at your leaders and be sure to say thank you. Try to emulate their example and most of all, look for ways to bring in new members and encourage each other. We have a wonderful organization and I appreciate each of you.
Charlene Fort ~

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO: download your membership form and mail it to Gayle Larsen and think about participating in the Glass Gallery this year!